President's America First Investment Policy, "economic security is national security." Consistent with this, the Federal government has determined that the steel industry is "critical to minimum operations of the *economy* and *government*."[4]

In the case of steel, the history of U.S. Government actions to ensure the continued viability of the domestic steel industry demonstrates that, across decades and Administrations, there has been consensus that domestic steel production is vital to our national interest. The overall security of the nation is dependent upon a strong economy and investments in industry and infrastructure. All of these goals are supported by the steel industry, and it needs to have protection from the proposed rules until such time as a proper review can take place.

The unprecedented and exorbitant costs that U. S. Steel would need to incur to attempt to comply with the Coke RTR Rule would risk U. S. Steel losing viable commercial production capabilities and will jeopardize the domestic industry's ability to meet the full spectrum of infrastructure and investment needs. Ensuring that U. S. Steel and other steel producers are able to continue to produce steel in the market for U.S. commercial and infrastructure needs is necessary to grow the U. S. market and economy.

The Coke RTR Rule, as well as the other rules affecting the domestic steel industry, will result in unprecedented costs which will jeopardize the long-term operations of U. S. Steel (and other steel producers.) If U. S. Steel is not financially viable to invest in the latest technologies, facilities, and long-term research and development, nor retain skilled workers while attracting a next-generation workforce, it will be unable to support the nation's infrastructure, economy and commercial needs.

C. Cumulative Burden

In 2024, EPA promulgated three new steel sector rules[5] resulting in dozens of new emission limits and work practices materially impacting the domestic iron and steel critical operations in the United States. A Presidential Exemption is necessary to prevent significant direct adverse impacts and irreparable harm to domestic steel production and infrastructure.

The promulgation of these three rules, simultaneously with other recent significant EPA actions, including most notably, the lowering of the PM2.5 NAAQS and the adoption of the

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[4] Department of Commerce, Bureau of Export Administration; *The Effect of Imports of Iron Ore and Semi-Finished Steel on the National Security*, October 2001

[5] The three rules at issue are:

1) National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Integrated Iron and Steel Manufacturing Facilities (EPA-HQ-EPA-OAR-2002-0083), April 3, 2024, *Federal Register*, (89 Fed. Reg. 23294)
2) National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Coke Ovens: Pushing, Quenching, and Battery Stacks, and Coke Oven Batteries. (EPA HQ OAR 2002 0085 and EPA HQ OAR 2003 0051). July 5, 2024, *Federal Register*, (89 Fed. Reg. 55684); and
3) National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Taconite Iron Ore Processing Amendments (EPA-HQ-OAR-2017-0664), March 6, 2024, *Federal Register*, (89 Fed. Reg. 16408).